THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time have issued advisories to the State Governments to give more focused attention to improving administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for prevention of crimes against all vulnerable section of society.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh and Ministry of Tourism, Government of India have been publicizing important forts through brochures and website.

(d) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends financial assistance to the State Governments for tourism related projects that are identified in consultation with them under the scheme 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destination and Circuits'.

The Ministry of Tourism had sanctioned projects of Rs. 27.00 lakh (2001-02) for floodlighting of Jhansi Fort and Rs. 55.68 lakh (2005-06) for improvement of facilities at Tiksy Fort Complex at Etawah, to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Special Tourist Police

3079. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the increase in the incidents of harassment, cheating, molestation and rape involving foreign tourists, Government has asked the State Governments to introduce Special Tourist Police for safety and security of foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether only ten States have introduced Special Tourist Police in their States;

(d) if so, the details of the States who have not considered the directives of the Central Government so far; and

(e) by when the State Governments are likely to introduce Tourist Police Force at various tourist sports in their State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, the prevention of crime, including crimes against tourists is the primary responsibility of State Governments/Union Territories. However, in order to ensure safety and security of tourists the Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/ Union Territories to deploy Tourist Police in the States/UTs. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, etc., have deployed Tourist Police in one form or the other.